

# Irrigation Congress at El Paso

An Epitome of the Work of that Body. Elephant Butte Reservoir Recommended. Officers Elected and Numerous Resolutions Passed.

The Twelfth National Irrigation Congress convened at El Paso, Tuesday of last week and remained in session until Friday evening.

The chairman of the credentials committee, Delegate Hayes of Oklahoma, reported a total of 24 states and territories represented with 400 delegates present, as follows:

Arizona, 42; California, 37; Colorado, 12; District of Columbia, 11; Idaho, 6; Illinois, 5; Indian Territory, 1; Kansas, 3; Louisiana, 2; Michigan, 1; Minnesota, 7; Missouri, 4; Montana, 5; Nebraska, 12; Nevada, 4; New Mexico, 50; North Dakota, 1; Ohio, 1; Oklahoma, 33; Oregon, 17; Texas, 60; Utah, 26; Washington, 5; Wisconsin, 10; Mexico, 45; Egypt, 1.

Prof. E. Benjamin Andrews presided over the irrigation section and a number of prominent men were in attendance from all parts of prominent men were in attendance from all parts of the United States and from Mexico.

President Roosevelt was represented at the congress by Mr. Pinchot, Chief Forester of the United States. Mr. Pinchot read a letter from the President in which President Roosevelt congratulated the congress on the advancement which had been made toward the improvement of the soil and reclamation of arid lands. The President said in closing:

"The future growth and greatness of the other Western interests will depend, in the first degree, upon the development of irrigation, and the development of irrigation will depend upon the protection and wise use of existing forests and the creation of new ones, and the proper control of the grazing. Your work for the good of one interest is for the good of all."

Many interesting and instructive papers were read and addresses made to the congress and it is believed that the work of the congress will be productive of much good. Certain it is that their work tends to the enlightenment of the people and to a realization of the value of irrigation while the work which the congress has accomplished is of considerable magnitude.

## West For Small Farms.

Guy E. Mitchell, secretary of the National Irrigation association, read a paper on "The West for Small Farms." He said in part:

"The irrigation movement, which is sweeping over the country is pregnant with vast possibilities for good in the United States. Irrigation begets small farms and no country is so prosperous, so stable, as that which has for its basis a multitude of small farms."

Starting with the greatest bonanza farms in the world, the west, declared Mr. Mitchell, will become in the next generation a region of small farms, with units of 100 acres, 80 and even 40 acres to the family.

As the magnificent results of irrigation become more widely known throughout the country, the practice will invade the east, even to the Atlantic coast, until in time every water supply from ocean to ocean will be utilized for irrigation, and with this will come the subdivision of hundreds of thousands of farms into smaller tracts more carefully tilled and more productive.

"The question at present of whether the western public lands shall become settled and farmed in small tracts, or whether they shall continue to be of easy acquisition in large tracts is one of vital interest to the west, and of no less interest to the entire nation."

"The most liberal construction has been in the past placed upon all of our land acquiring laws; there has been no strict enforcement of the principle that when the government gives away a piece of its land, that land should as a return, become a home. Vast areas of the land of the west, which have passed from the government into private ownership by a transfer, the spirit of which contemplated its settle-

ment and cultivation is today lying idle, is farmed in the most inefficient and shiftless manner, because its owner has too much land to properly till, or is irrigated merely to produce a crop of hay to winter feed stock—whereas, were open to settlement it could be taken up in 160 acre tracts and an immense population created."

"Today, the west is looking through the vista into a glorious future. With one of the widest measures for internal improvement ever enacted by any nation being pushed forward rapidly and skillfully by engineers of the highest intelligence and honesty, upon a basis of merit, and for the general good of the country, it remains only that the United States shall return to the great spirit of the old homestead law and provide that settlement and home building shall follow the disposal of our magnificent public domains and our splendid water resources."

## To Dam Rio Grande.

Probably the most important project before the congress was the matter of an international dam which was settled by adoption of resolutions favoring the construction of the Elephant Butte reservoir.

The representatives of Old Mexico, New Mexico and El Paso at the irrigation congress held a prolonged and somewhat heated conference and finally adopted resolutions favoring the construction of the Elephant Butte reservoir near Las Cruces, N. M., seventy miles above El Paso on the Rio Grande. This reservoir has the endorsement of the engineers of the United States reclamation service, whose estimates show that it will store sufficient water to irrigate 110,000 acres of the Mesilla Valley, New Mexico, 20,000 acres of Texas lands above El Paso and 50,000 below.

By the adoption of this compromise the long contest between El Paso and New Mexico over the rival International and Elephant Butte Dams is probably settled forever. International Dam project was the outgrowth of claims set up by Old Mexico for \$40,000 to her citizens in the Juarez district, whose farms were ruined several years ago by the exhaustion of the water of the Rio Grande by irrigators in Colorado and New Mexico. Old Mexico agreed to cancel her claims provided the international reservoir was built on the border and her citizens were given the use of the water on an area of 100,000 acres.

The United States Government regarded the project with favor, and under the Cleveland administration the negotiations reached an advanced stage and a treaty was framed, but never signed.

Private capital from London had while these negotiations were in progress begun the construction of a reservoir at Elephant Butte. The United States Department of Justice enjoined the promoters on the ground that the Rio Grande was a navigable stream and the work was stopped.

Meantime Congressman John H. Stephens, of Texas had repeatedly tried to pass a special bill providing for the construction of the International Dam. Not long ago engineers of the reclamation service examined both sites and pronounced that at Elephant Butte the best suited for the construction of a reservoir, and agreed to recommend it to the department, provided the opposition of the people of El Paso be withdrawn. Furthermore they showed by their estimates that El Paso would derive almost as much benefit from the project as New Mexico and that if necessary half of the water reaching the Texas border could be given to the despoiled citizens of Juarez.

A meeting was therefore called of the citizens of New Mexico, El Paso and Mexico and in joint session all opposition to the Elephant Butte project was removed and the dam will probably be built, but in event the El Paso Valley is to derive any benefit from the waters the passage of a special act must be accomplished, Texas is not included under the reclamation laws.

## Dr. Phillips' Address.

Dr. Wm. B. Phillips, director of the Texas mineral survey, University of Texas, read an interesting paper upon "Irrigation Upon the School Lands of Texas." In the discussion which followed, T. C. Taylor, professor of engineering of the University of Texas, drew attention to the fact that this State has never expended a dollar to promote irrigation in any way, and he declared that it ought to do so. Later on Mr. Taylor read a paper on "Rice Irrigation in Texas." He corrected a statement to the effect that Texas has 50,000 acres irrigated. He showed that there are 225,000 acres of rice irrigated in Texas, besides about 100,000 acres irrigated outside of the rice belt.

Among the other interesting discussions was an address by W. J. Spillman, agriculturist of the United States Department of Agriculture. Besides dealing with grass for the irrigated districts, he spoke of these suitable for non-irrigated territory and preached an allround sermon upon diversification. He declared that when the farmers of the South had gone a little further in the practice of diversification those of the North and East would feel their competition.

"They can beat you," he said, "because they can grow two crops to your one, and they are learning very fast."

An announcement which was received with evident great interest was that the department will soon issue a bulletin giving a certain recipe for the collecting of Johnson grass. Mr. Spillman thinks this an extremely valuable grass for non-irrigated territory and believes that it will grow in popularity once the farmers have learned how to get rid of it when they desire to do so.

## Honorary Vice Presidents.

Indiana, C. A. Carlisle, South Bend, Nevada, Sen. Newlands, Reno, Oklahoma, W. T. Little, Perry, Texas, T. U. Taylor, Austin, Utah, J. H. Smith, Salt Lake, Louisiana, C. A. Tiebert, Roseland, Washington, Cyprus, Happy, Spokane, Minnesota, Prof. Thomas Shaw, Michigan, Congressman Smith, Grand Rapids, Iowa, Jesse H. Hawley, Arizona, Dwight B. Heard, Phoenix, Colorado, F. H. Brandenburg, Denver, New Mexico, Francis G. Tracy, Carlsbad, Oregon, Thos. G. Horley, Pendleton, California, Scipio Crag, Redlands, Nebraska, W. H. Wright, Scott's Bluff.

## Members Executive Committee.

Indiana, N. A. Gladding, Indianapolis, Nevada, J. M. Jones, Reno, Oklahoma, J. B. Thompson, Guthrie, Texas, Geo. A. Barstow, Barstow, Utah, F. J. Kiesel, Ogden, Louisiana, Chas. K. Fuqua, Baton Rouge, Washington, H. B. Scudder, North Spokane, Minnesota, Benj. F. Beardsley, Michigan, W. K. Morley, Grand Rapids.

Iowa, Geo. A. Lathan, Arizona, B. A. Fowler, Phoenix, Colorado, A. F. Frances, Cripple Creek, New Mexico, L. B. Prince, Santa Fe, Oregon, A. K. Wilson, Portland, California, C. B. Boothe, Los Angeles, Nebraska, F. V. Magley, Lexington.

The congress will convene next in Portland in 1905 during the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

## Resolutions Presented.

Among the many resolutions presented were the following:

Gifford Pinchot, of the District of Columbia, presented two resolutions, one urging legislation appropriating funds for forest planting on denuded water sheds in the forest reserves, and the other repeating and emphasizing the resolutions of previous congresses in favor of the consolidation of all government forest work in the United States department of agriculture.

Delegate T. DeWitt Lawrence, of California, introduced a resolution providing for the reclamation of the eastern portion of San Diego county.

Delegate Fairweather, of Fresno county, Cal., introduced a resolution to bring about a more determined effort to carry forward the reclamation work, explaining that many corporations, etc., were working in opposition to the reclamation service. The resolution also called for an endorsement by the congress of the work of the reclamation service.

Congressman Stephens, of Texas, introduced resolutions

providing for the opening of the Sabine and Neches rivers to navigation, and for the extension of the national irrigation law to include Texas within its provisions in so far as the existing land laws of the state will permit.

Other resolutions were introduced by A. A. Switzer, of Minnesota, to prevent land holders from monopolizing the benefits of National irrigation projects; by Truman G. Palmer, of New York, that the sugar beet culture of the United States be encouraged by the prevention of contract coolie labor on the sugar plantations of the Philippines or wherever the American flag floats.

## New Officers of the Congress.

The congress proceeded before final adjournment to the election of officers and the selection of the next meeting place.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Gov. Geo. C. Pardee, of California. First vice president, Judge L. M. Shurtliff, of Utah. Second vice president, Congressman J. H. Stephens, of Texas. Third vice president, E. L. Smith, of Hood River, Oregon. Portland, Ore., was selected as the next meeting place.

## Notice of Sheriff's Sale.

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TOM GREEN.

By Virtue of a certain Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable County Court of Tom Green County, on the 5th day of November, 1904, on a certain judgment of foreclosure in favor of Joseph Moulin, Plaintiff, against R. F. McSweeney, Defendant, for the sum of Five Hundred and Eighty-two Dollars and Thirty-five Cents (\$582.35) besides interest and cost of suit, in cause No. 758 in said Court, styled Joseph Moulin, Plaintiff, versus R. F. McSweeney, Defendant, and placed in my hands for service, I, J. B. Allen, as sheriff of Tom Green County, Texas, did, on the 5th day of November, 1904, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in said Order of Sale as follows:

Acre lot, number twelve, (12) of and in Miles Addition to the town of San Angelo, in Tom Green County, Texas, being a part of survey number 322, in name of Christian Sallinger, which said judgment is a foreclosure of Plaintiff's Attachment Lien on the said Real Estate. And on Tuesday, the 6th day of December, 1904, at the Court House door of Tom Green County, in the City of San Angelo, Texas, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., I will sell said Real Estate at public vendue, for cash, to the highest bidder, by virtue of said Order of Sale.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the San Angelo Press, a newspaper published in Tom Green County.

Witness my hand, this 9th day of November, 1904.

J. B. ALLEN,  
Sheriff Tom Green County, Texas.  
By P. E. West,  
Deputy.

Dr. J. W. C. Love of Tuspan, Mexico left Monday for that place, after a visit of a few days to his brother, Dr. O. B. Love.

## Cured Constipation.

Mrs. B. W. Evans, Clearwater, Kan., writes: "My husband lay sick for three months. The doctors said he had quick consumption. We procured a bottle of Ballard's Horehound syrup, and it cured him. That was six years ago. Since then we have always kept a bottle in the house. We cannot do without it. For coughs and colds it has no equal." 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by Central drug store.

Miss Blanche Marie Bell and brother Frank returned Thursday from a lengthy visit to relatives and the Fair at St. Louis.

## Letter to San Angelo Ice Company

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.  
Dear Sirs: Mr. Frank Robinson, Titusville, Pa., bought Devoe with a good deal of feeling against the whole tribe of mixed paints. Our agents there, Messrs. Kernochan & Co., got him to do it. He says: "I am more than pleased with the job. I had one-third of the paint left over; I know of several other jobs, a year old or more, painted with Devoe, that are wearing well."

What a pity we have to all go through the same school, to find out what paint to put on a house! Experience teaches. Isn't there any easier way to learn?

F. W. Devoe & Co., New York.  
P. S.—B. B. Hail & Co. sell our paint.

GEO. E. WEBB, President. WM. S. KELLY, Vice-Pres.  
C. H. POWELL, Cashier.

UNITED STATES DEPOSITARY

2767

## The First National Bank

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.

CAPITAL \$100,000  
SURPLUS AND PROFITS \$90,000

ACCOUNTS SOLICITED

## TRY MY DAIRY

For one month and I am satisfied you will continue a customer of mine. My milk is pure, rich and sweet—and my driver prompt.

"Cleanliness" My Watchword

## TME JERSEY DAIRY.

Phone 365. CORBIN ADAMS, Prop. San Angelo, Texas.

## FRISCO SYSTEM

Chicago & East Illinois R. R.

Double Daily Trains

BETWEEN

St. Louis and Chicago

Morning and Evening

From LaSalle Street Station, Chicago, - 9:50 a. m.—9:10 p. m.  
From U. Sta. (Merchants Bridge) St. Louis 9:30 a. m.—9:46 p. m.

Morning or evening connection at both termini with lines diverging. Equipment entirely new and modern throughout.

A DOUBLE-TRACK RAILWAY.  
Equipped with practical and approved safety appliances. Substantially constructed.

## Wool Growers

Consign Your Wool to

GEO. RICHARDSON,

Wool Commission Merchant,

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.

## Grand Steer Roping Contest

San Angelo, Texas

Dec. 15 and 16, 1904

Possibly the last opportunity you may have of witnessing one of these grand and intensely exciting contests in the Bovine Arena. All of the well known champions and favorites have already entered and this event will positively eclipse anything of the kind ever before presented; the inducements being sufficient to secure the very best roping talent in existence. Each man ropes two steers; one each day.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

FRED BAKER VS. JOHN MURRAH.  
Three steers each, for a purse of \$500.

WILL PICKETT, THE "DUSKY DEMON"  
Will throw two steers each day with his teeth.

Good Brocho Busting also.

C. A. FARQUHAR, D. D. THAMES,  
Sec. and Treas. President.

## Have You a Broken Window?

If you have, let me fix it for you. Winter is here and the cold winds will come in if you don't have it attended to.

PHONE NUMBERS: 11, 20, 60, 69, 333 O. B. LOVE, Jr.